

AMERICAN CITIZEN SERVICES CONSULAR MISSION ECUADOR



A NEWSLETTER OF THE U.S. EMBASSY AND CONSULATE
GENERAL FOR THE U.S. COMMUNITY IN ECUADOR



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JULY 4TH CELEBRATIONS

On June 26 in Cuenca, July 2 in Guayaquil, and July 3 in Quito, the U.S. Consulate and the U.S. Embassy celebrated 243 years of independence. The theme was the 50th Anniversary of the Moon Landing and Space Exploration. Decorations highlighted the Apollo 11 mission and ongoing space exploration.

This year's event was the first time the Marine Security Guard Detachment led a color guard ceremony in Guayaquil.

Approximately 750 guests attended the event in Guayaquil, 200 in Cuenca, and 1,200 in Quito, a reflection of the strong ties that exist between the United States and Ecuador.

THE EMBASSY AND CONSULATE WELCOME AMBASSADOR FITZPATRICK



We are excited to welcome Ambassador Michael J. Fitzpatrick, who arrived in Ecuador on June 19th. Ambassador Fitzpatrick has served in the foreign service since 1988 and previously served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Western Hemisphere Affairs. A native of Virginia, Mr. Fitzpatrick received his B.A. from Georgetown University and an M.I.A. from Columbia University.

His personal pursuits include mountain climbing, trekking, cycling, and other outdoor sports. Mr. Fitzpatrick speaks Spanish and French.

ACS Services in Guayaquil

CRBA Services*

Monday-Thursday:
12:45 PM & 1:30 PM

Passport Services DS-11*

Monday-Thursday,
7:45 AM-10:15 AM

DS-82/DS-5504:

Fridays: 8:30-9:30 AM
No appointment needed

Passport Pick-Up

Mon-Thur: 11:00 - 11:30 AM
No appointment needed

Notary Services*

Mon-Thur: 10:30 - 11:00 AM

Emergency Passports

No appointment needed during
business hours

***By appointment only**

ACS Services in Quito

CRBA Services*

Monday-Thursday:
8:30 & 9:30 AM

Passport Services DS-11*

Monday-Thursday,
1:00 - 2:00 PM

DS-82/DS-5504:

Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays:
11:00 - 11:30 AM

Passport Pick-Up

Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays:
11:00 - 11:30 AM

Notary Services*

Mon-Thur: 1:00 - 1:30 PM

Emergency Passports

No appointment needed during
business hours

***By appointment only**

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

It's never too early to prepare for an emergency situation, whether it's a natural disaster or family-related. In Ecuador, the risk of a natural disaster in the form of earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions is always present.

In case of an emergency, the Embassy and the Consulate will do everything they can to ensure Americans are accounted for and safe, but there are things everyone can do proactively to prepare. For example, you can create an emergency kit for your family or familiarize yourself with State Department's guidance for emergency situations abroad.

Another way to prepare is through the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). STEP is a free service which sends alerts to your email in case of emergency, whether it be a natural disaster, civil unrest, or family in the United States needing to contact you due to a family emergency.

In Cuenca, the Consejo de Seguridad Ciudadana also works to ensure people are prepared. On their website, they list security recommendations such as what to do in an earthquake and where evacuation zones are across the city. They also have an active social media presence on Facebook where they post information. Once an emergency starts, there is no more time to prepare.

With these tools, you can be better prepared yourselves, your families, and your communities to confront situations when they occur. Additionally, knowing locally available resources ahead of time is critical when every moment counts. The Ecuadorian government actively works to make information about

emergency preparedness available on their websites and social media.

For example, the Secretaria de Gestion de Riesgos publishes information on what to do in case of natural disasters.

To see evacuation routes in Cuenca go to: <http://csc.gob.ec/CSCWeb/2018/09/25/cuenca-city-safe-areas-for-evacuation/>

To explore Consejo de Seguridad visit: <http://csc.gob.ec/CSCWeb/>

Social Security Administration

SSA will be coming to Ecuador, August 19 to 23!

Additional information will be provided in the coming weeks.

REMEMBER, if you reside in Ecuador and have questions regarding services provided by the Social Security Administration (SSA), you must contact the SSA Federal Benefits Unit (FBU) in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

For more information on their services and how to contact them, please visit their webpage at: <https://do.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services/social-security/>.

CLVS NEEDED: PLEASE VOLUNTEER

We currently have a great team of Community Liaison Volunteers (CLVs) and are looking to add even more as the number of American citizens in Ecuador continues to grow.

CLVs are active parts of U.S. communities and are an important point of contact between private U.S. citizen communities and the American Citizen Services (ACS) units in the U.S. Embassy and Consulate.

Duties may include being an on-the-ground resource to help ACS understand issues of concern to U.S. citizens; reporting on available local resources and resource gaps for U.S. citizens; identifying risks for potential crises and security issues in their area; and, in exigent situations only, helping post provide emergency services to U.S. citizens. The Embassy and Consulate are currently looking for volunteers in all regions and cities outside of Quito and Guayaquil. Please email us if you're interested in volunteering at ACSQuito@state.gov or ACSGuayaquil@state.gov.



USNS COMFORT VISITS ECUADOR

U.S. Navy hospital ship USNS Comfort traveled to Manta June 26 to July 3 as part of its four-month medical assistance mission to South and Central America.

Nearly 8,000 Ecuadorians and some 300 Venezuelans received healthcare from the USNS COMFORT or Ecuadorian health officials during the COMFORT's visit .

The primary purpose of the deployment was to provide humanitarian assistance, including medical, surgical, dental, and optometry services . It also aimed to relieve pressure on national health systems stressed as a result of the high numbers of Venezuelans who fled their country . Other countries to be visited include Peru, Panama and Colombia.



The U.S. Navy Hospital Ship USNS Comfort

Up-Coming ACS Travel

Machala: August 21- 22

Cuenca: September 24-26

Stay tuned for details.

Contact us:

ACSQuito@state.gov

ACSGuayaquil@state.gov

MEET THE GUAYAQUIL ACS TEAM



(From Left to Right)

Juan Pablo has worked in ACS at the Consulate since 2012. Previously he worked in the Ecuadorian customs office. He is married with three children.

Sahendy Estevez joined the State Department in 2018. This is her first tour. Sahendy received a B.A. in Political Science and Italian from College of the Holy Cross and a M.A. in Nonproliferation and Terrorism Studies from the Monterrey Institute of International Studies. She speaks Arabic, Italian, and Spanish.

Gabriela has worked in ACS since 2015. She has a degree in Hotel Management and worked in the industry for seven years prior to joining the State Department. She has a four year old daughter and has been married for five years.

Karla has worked for the Consulate for over 26 years with 20 years specifically in the ACS unit. She says it has been an honor to work alongside so many officers and locally employed staff and feels they are part of her extended family.

ACS Chief Philip Folkemer joined the Foreign Service in 2009. Prior to his arrival in Guayaquil in July 2018, he served at the U.S. Embassy in Belize, the U.S. Mission to NATO in Brussels, and the U.S. Embassy in Togo.

Adriano came back to settle in Ecuador and worked as a Business Consultant after a long tour in Europe. He worked for the Consulate for two years before joining the ACS team in June 2018. In 2018, he also got married. He enjoys riding / fixing / building bicycles and considers himself a bicycle enthusiast.

Alejandro Gonzalez joined the Foreign Service in 2013. This is Alejandro's third year in Guayaquil as a Consular Officer. He was previously assigned to Bogota, Colombia, where he also worked as a Consular officer.

ACS Local Supervisor Eduardo Jacome has worked for the Consulate for eight years. Previously, Eduardo served in the United States Army for seven years and as police officer in Texas.

MEET THE QUITO ACS TEAM



(From Left to Right)

Adriana joined ACS in 2018. Adriana received a B.S. in Liberal Arts with a Law & Paralegal Studies concentration. Previously she worked at the World Bank in Washington D.C., and at an American multinational company in Ecuador. She is a devoted mother of two and avid reader.

Elizabeth worked in the U.S. consulate in Recife, Brazil for a total of eight years, six years as a Non-Immigrant Visa Clerk, and two years as the NIV supervisor. In 2014, she moved to Quito, Ecuador where she has been working for the U.S. Embassy in various consular-related roles. Prior to working for the State Department, she worked in the private sector for the Brazilian Government.

ACS Chief Ian Hayward joined the Department of State in 2007. Prior to his arrival in Quito in January 2017, he served at the U.S. Embassies in Manila, Philippines, and La Paz, Bolivia, as well as in the Bureau of Consular Affairs in Washington, DC.

Keith Kadlec arrived in Ecuador in December, 2018, after a tour in ACS in Lisbon. Prior to Portugal, he worked in Albania, Nepal, and Pakistan. Keith has lived in Australia, the Netherlands, Costa Rica,

and Moldova. He earned his undergraduate and law degrees at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Herminia has worked in ACS for seven years. Prior to this, she worked for the Drug Enforcement Agency in Quito for two years. Herminia holds a degree in business and finance from Universidad Católica del Ecuador.

Esteban has worked in ACS since 2009. He started as an ACS clerk and the position evolved to an ACS Assistant. Previously, he worked with the construction company that built the U.S. Embassy in Quito as a Warehouse, Logistics, and IT Manager. He has an IT background and is very resourceful in different areas.

ACS Local Supervisor Miguel Salazar has been with the embassy for three years. Prior to joining the ACS team, he served in the United States Navy. He holds a masters degree in Leadership and a masters degree in Public Administration with an emphasis in Policy and Governance. He completed his undergraduate studies in Health Care Administration, all from Grand Canyon University, in Phoenix, AZ

PASSPORT RENEWAL BY DHL

NOW AVAILABLE IN ECUADOR!

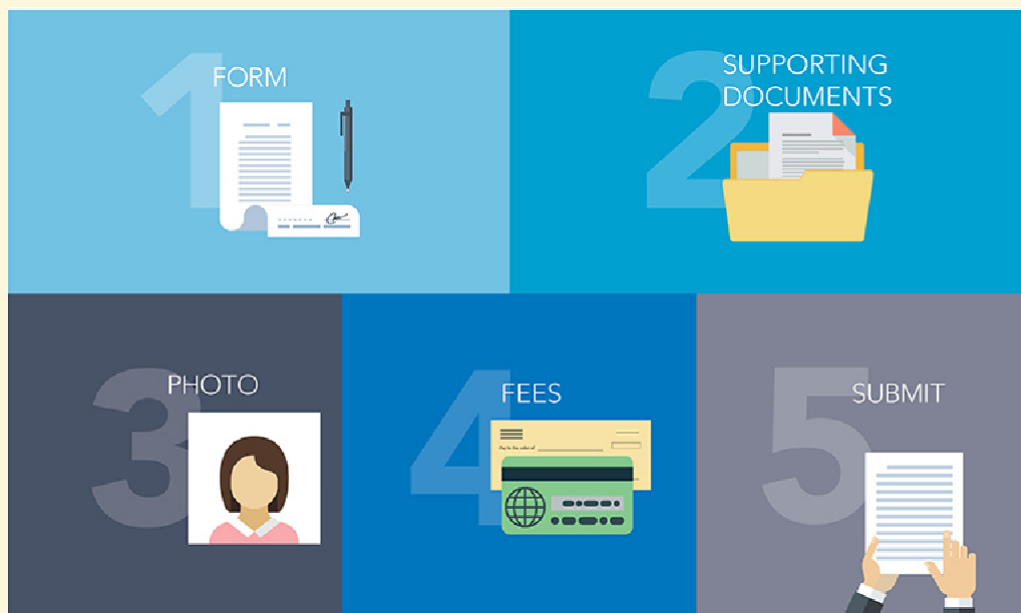
You are eligible if your current passport:

- Is undamaged (other than normal "wear and tear")
- Was issued when you were age 16 or older
- Was issued within the last 15 years
- Is in your current name (or you can document your name change with an original or certified copy of your marriage certificate, divorce decree, or court order)

The U.S. Consulate in Guayaquil covers issues within the regions of Azuay, Canar, El Oro, Galapagos, Guayas, Loja, Los Ríos, Manabí, Santa Elena, and Zamora Chinchipe.

The Embassy covers Esmeraldas, Santo Domingo, Cotopaxi, Bolívar, Chimborazo, Tungurahua, Carchi, Imbabura, Pichincha, Napo, Morona Santiago, Pastaza, Orellana, and Sucumbios

STEPS:



Fill out Form DS-82 (see link below).

Include your most recent U.S. passport and one color copy of the biographic-data page.

One photograph (2 x 2 inches or 51 x 51 mm). Color, no eyeglasses, taken in last six months.

Include a Cashier's Check for \$110 issued in the name of U.S. Disbursing Officer (One check for each application). U.S. Embassy's RUC: 1791845986001. If you would also like a passport card, please add \$30. We cannot accept personal checks.

Send your complete passport application (items 1 to 4) via DHL. Do not send your application to the United States. You will be required to pay \$15 + IVA to send and \$15 + IVA to receive your passport.

For additional information, visit: <https://ec.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services/passports/>